



Climate Adaptation Addendum



Conservation Board of Burlington, VT



What is it?

- Addition to Open Space Plan that addresses Climate Change
- The purpose of the addendum is so that the Open Space Plan update will recognize natural areas and conservations significant role in greenhouse gas reduction, urban cooling, avoided emissions and resilience.



What's it all about?

- Natural areas and conservation have a large role to play in climate action and they often overlooked.
- Nature Conservancy, United Nations, Conservation International, Union of Concerned Scientists, US Sustainability Network, Trust for Public Lands, recognize that nature's capacity to store carbon, and reduce emission and provide resilience is often overlooked and so have coined the term “nature-based climate solutions”.
- Burlington is proud of its commitment to Climate Change but it could and should be more multidimensional and we can help direct that with this addendum.



Why Now?

- **UN estimates that significant efforts needed in the next 10 years to make to keep warming below 2C.**
- **Nature is good for the climate: storing and absorbing carbon forestalls climate change. Any action that conserves, improves or restores ecosystems (improving carbon storage and avoiding emissions) is a nature based climate solution.**
- **UN in 2019 estimates that 33% of climate action needs to come from nature based solutions. These solutions receive 2-3% of climate action funding.***

Why now?

To guide work that is happening in the city and to elevate its importance.

For example:

- Tree Planting (311 N. Ave, Derway Cove, IC, Mackenzie, Oakledge)
- Wetland/Riparian/Lakeshore Restoration (Oakledge, Derway Cove, Intervale Center, Mackenzie, Rock Point, Intervale Conservation Nursery)
- Social Trail Reduction and Increased Wildlife Monitoring
- Conservation of Land with Legacy Fund (Derway Cove, Rock Point, Arms Forest, Pomerleau Forest).
- Managing/Conversion to natives (Urban Reserve, Pomerleau)



What's it all about?

- Nature Based Solutions
- Burlington has many efforts that are often not counted or considered.
- The Climate Change addendum can alter that and increase recognition and status of natural climate solutions in the city.



How we'll make it happen

- Community engagement
- Consultant
- Legacy fund

Community engagement

- Meetings in the park
- Virtual meetings
- Online engagement and resources

Questions?
